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WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

5   1.   A method of managing the transfer of parts stored in a
          secure area by a supplier to a customer via a computer
          network, the method comprising:
               providing a storefront database including secure area
          inventory information;
10   providing a storefront server operably coupled to the
          storefront database and operably coupled to the computer
          network;
               coupling a customer client to the storefront server
          via the computer network;
15   receiving secure area part reception information by
          the storefront server from the customer client via the
          computer network;
               updating the secure area inventory information by the
          storefront server using the secure area part reception
20   information;
               receiving secure area part issuing information by the
          storefront server from the customer client via the computer
          network; and
               updating the secure area inventory information by the
25   storefront server using the secure area part issuing
          information.

     2.   The method of claim 1, wherein the secure area is located
          at a site controlled by the customer.
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     3.   The method of claim 1, wherein the secure area is located
          at a neutral site.

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4.   The method of claim 1, further comprising:

generating by the storefront server a new part invoice when a new part is being issued according to the secure area part issuing information; and

generating by the storefront server a fixed price invoice for rebuilding a rotable part core when a rotable part is being issued according to the secure area part issuing information.

5.   The method of claim 1, wherein the storefront database is a neutral database.

6.   The method of Claim 1, further comprising:

providing a customer profile database including customer document customization information associated with customer identification information;

receiving by the storefront server from the customer client via the computer network customer identification information;

retrieving by the storefront server from the customer profile database customization information using the customer identification information; and

generating by the storefront server customized documents using the customization information.

7.   The method of Claim 1, further comprising:

receiving by the storefront server from the customer client via the communications network core return information including a quantity of cores returned;

incrementing a core credit by the quantity of cores returned;

receiving by the storefront server from the customer client via the communications network rotable part issue

information including a quantity of rotable parts to issue; and
        updating the secure area information if the quantity
5   of rotable parts to issue is not greater than the core
     credit quantity.

8.   The method of Claim 1, further comprising:
        storing in-transit shipment information in the
10   storefront database, the in-transit shipment information
     including a waybill number from a carrier for accessing
     shipment status information from a carrier Web server;
        receiving by the storefront server from a client via
     the computer network an in-transit shipment query; and
15   generating by the storefront server an in-transit
     document including a hypertext link to the carrier Web
     server, the hypertext link comprising the waybill number.

9.   The method of claim 1, further comprising:
        maintaining by the storefront server in the storefront
     database a history of part transactions for a secure area;
        receiving by the storefront server a part transaction
     history request from a client via the computer network, the
     part transaction history request including a part number;
25   and
        generating by the storefront server a part history
     report document using the history of part transactions and
     the part number.

30   10. The method of claim 9, the part history report document
     further including a link to an alternatively formatted part
     history report document.

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11. A method of managing the transfer of rotable parts stored in a secure area by a supplier to a customer via a computer network, the method comprising:

providing a storefront database including secure area inventory information, the secure area inventory information including a customer rotable part core credit quantity;

providing a storefront server operably coupled to the storefront database and operably coupled to the computer network;

coupling a customer client to the storefront server via the computer network;

receiving rotable part core shipping information by the storefront server from the customer client via the computer network, the rotable part core shipping information including a quantity of rotable part cores shipped by the customer to the supplier;

incrementing the customer rotable part core credit by the quantity of rotable part cores shipped by the customer to the supplier;

receiving secure area rotable part issuing information by the storefront server from the customer client via the computer network, the secure area rotable part issuing information including a quantity of rotable parts to be issued;

comparing the quantity of rotable parts to be issued to the customer rotable part core credit; and

terminating a rotable part issue transaction if the quantity of rotable parts to be issued is greater than the customer rotable part core credit.

12. A method of managing the transfer of parts stored in a
     secure area by a supplier to a customer via a computer
5   network, the method comprising:
          providing a storefront database including secure area
     inventory   information,   the   secure   area   inventory
     information including in-transit and secure area on-hand
     inventory information;
10   providing a storefront server operably coupled to the
     storefront database and operably coupled to the computer
     network;
          coupling a client to the storefront server via the
     computer network;
15   receiving by the storefront server from the client via
     the computer network a secure area inventory query request;
          generating a secure area inventory report document
     including the in-transit and secure area on-hand inventory
     information.
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13. The method of Claim 12, the secure area inventory report
     document further including a link to an alternatively
     formatted secure area inventory report document.

25   14. A data processing system adapted to manage transfer of
     parts stored in a secure area by a supplier to a customer
     via a computer network, comprising:
          a processor; and
          a memory operably coupled to the processor and having
30   program instructions stored therein, the processor being
     operable to execute the program instructions, the program
     instructions including:
               receiving secure area part reception information
               by the data processing system from a customer client
35   via a computer network;

updating secure area inventory information stored on a storefront database by the data processing system

5   using the secure area part reception information;

receiving secure area part issuing information by the data processing system from the customer client via the computer network; and

updating the secure area inventory information by

10   the data processing system using the secure area part issuing information.

15. The data processing system of claim 14, wherein the secure area is located at a site controlled by the customer.

16. The data processing system of claim 14, wherein the secure area is located at a neutral site.

17. The data processing system of claim 14, the program instructions further including:

generating by the data processing system a new part invoice when a new part is being issued according to the secure area part issuing information; and

generating by the data processing system a fixed price

25   invoice for rebuilding a rotable part core when a rotable part is being issued according to the secure area part issuing information.

18. The data processing system of claim 14, wherein the

30   storefront database is a neutral database.

19. The data processing system of claim 14, the program instructions further including:

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receiving by the data processing system from the customer client via the computer network customer identification information;

accessing a customer profile database including customer document customization information associated with customer identification information;

retrieving by the data processing system from the customer profile database customization information using the customer identification information; and

generating by the data processing system customized documents using the customization information.

20. The data processing system of claim 14, the program instructions further including:

receiving by the data processing system from the customer client via the communications network core return information including a quantity of cores returned;

incrementing a core credit by the quantity of cores returned;

receiving by the data processing system from the customer client via the communications network rotable part issue information including a quantity of rotable parts to issue; and

updating the secure area information if the quantity of rotable parts to issue is not greater than the core credit quantity.

21. The data processing system of Claim 14, the program instructions further including:

storing in-transit shipment information in the storefront database, the in-transit shipment information including a waybill number from a carrier for accessing shipment status information from a carrier Web server; and

receiving by the data processing system from a client via the computer network an in-transit shipment query; and

generating by the data processing system an in-transit document including a hypertext link to the carrier Web server, the hypertext link comprising the waybill number.

22. The data processing system of claim 14, the program instructions further including:

maintaining by the data processing system in the storefront database a history of part transactions for a secure area;

receiving by the data processing system a part transaction history request from a client via the computer network, the part transaction history request including a part number; and

generating by the data processing system a part history report document using the history of part transactions and the part number.

23. The data processing system of claim 22, the part history report document further including a link to an alternatively formatted part history report document.

24. A data processing system adapted to manage transfer of rotable parts stored in a secure area by a supplier to a customer via a computer network, comprising:

a processor; and

a memory operably coupled to the processor and having program instructions stored therein, the processor being operable to execute the program instructions, the program instructions including:

receiving rotable part core shipping information
by the data processing system from a customer client
via a computer network, the rotable part core shipping
information including a quantity of rotable part cores
shipped by the customer to the supplier;

incrementing a customer rotable part core credit
by the quantity of rotable part cores shipped by the
customer to the supplier;

receiving secure area rotable part issuing
information by the data processing system from the
customer client via the computer network, the secure
area rotable part issuing information including a
quantity of rotable parts to be issued;

comparing the quantity of rotable parts to be
issued to the customer rotable part core credit; and

terminating a rotable part issue transaction if
the quantity of rotable parts to be issued is greater
than the customer rotable part core credit.

25.   A data processing system adapted to manage transfer of
parts stored in a secure area by a supplier to a customer
via a computer network, comprising:

a processor; and

a memory operably coupled to the processor and having
program instructions stored therein, the processor being
operable to execute the program instructions, the program
instructions including:

receiving by the data processing system from a
client via the computer network a secure area
inventory query request;

accessing a storefront database in response to
the secure area inventory query request, the
storefront database including secure area inventory

information including in-transit and secure area on-
hand inventory information;

5   generating a secure area inventory report
document including the in-transit and secure area on-
hand inventory information.

26.   The data processing system of Claim 25, the secure area
10   inventory report document further including a link to an
alternatively formatted secure area inventory report
document.

27.   A computer readable media embodying computer program
15   instructions for execution by a computer, the computer
program instructions adapting a computer to manage the
transfer of parts stored in a secure area by a supplier to
a customer via a computer network, the computer
instructions comprising:

20   receiving secure area part reception information by
the computer from a customer client via a computer network;

updating secure area inventory information stored in
a storefront database by the computer using the secure area
part reception information;

25   receiving secure area part issuing information by the
computer from the customer client via the computer network;
and

updating the secure area inventory information by the
computer using the secure area part issuing information.

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28.   The computer readable media of claim 27, the computer
program instructions further comprising:

generating by the computer a new part invoice when a
new part is being issued according to the secure area part
35   issuing information; and

generating by the computer a fixed price invoice for rebuilding a rotable part core when a rotable part is being issued according to the secure area part issuing information.

29. The computer readable media of claim 27, the computer program instructions further comprising:

receiving by the computer from the customer client via the computer network customer identification information;

accessing by the computer a customer profile database including customer document customization information associated with customer identification information;

retrieving by the computer from the customer profile database customization information using the customer identification information; and

generating by the computer customized documents using the customization information.

30. The computer readable media of claim of claim 27, the computer program instructions further comprising:

receiving by the computer from the customer client via the communications network core return information including a quantity of cores returned;

incrementing a core credit by the quantity of cores returned;

receiving by the computer from the customer client via the communications network rotable part issue information including a quantity of rotable parts to issue; and

updating the secure area information if the quantity of rotable parts to issue is not greater than the core credit quantity.

31. The computer readable media of claim of claim 27, the
     computer program instructions further comprising:
          storing in-transit shipment information in the
     storefront database, the in-transit shipment information
     including a waybill number from a carrier for accessing
     shipment status information from a carrier Web server; and
          receiving by the computer from a client via the
     computer network an in-transit shipment query; and
          generating by the computer an in-transit document
     including a hypertext link to the carrier Web server, the
     hypertext link comprising the waybill number.

32. The computer readable media of claim of claim 27, the
     computer program instructions further comprising:
          maintaining by the computer in the storefront database
     a history of part transactions for a secure area;
          receiving by the computer a part transaction history
     request from a client via the computer network, the part
     transaction history request including a part number; and
          generating by the computer a part history report
     document using the history of part transactions and the
     part number.

33. The computer readable media of claim 32, the part history
     report document further including a link to an
     alternatively formatted part history report document.

34. A computer readable media embodying computer program
     instructions for execution by a computer, the computer
     program instructions adapting a computer to manage the
     transfer of rotable parts stored in a secure area by a
     supplier to a customer via a computer network, the computer
     instructions comprising:

receiving rotable part core shipping information by the computer from a customer client via the computer network, the rotable part core shipping information including a quantity of rotable part cores shipped by the customer to the supplier;

incrementing a customer rotable part core credit by the quantity of rotable part cores shipped by the customer to the supplier;

receiving secure area rotable part issuing information by the computer from the customer client via the computer network, the secure area rotable part issuing information including a quantity of rotable parts to be issued;

comparing the quantity of rotable parts to be issued to the customer rotable part core credit; and

terminating a rotable part issue transaction if the quantity of rotable parts to be issued is greater than the customer rotable part core credit.

35. A computer readable media embodying computer program instructions for execution by a computer, the computer program instructions adapting a computer to manage the transfer of parts stored in a secure area by a supplier to a customer via a computer network, the computer instructions comprising:

receiving by the computer from a client via the computer network a secure area inventory query request;

generating a secure area inventory report document including the in-transit and secure area on-hand inventory information.

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36. The computer readable media of claim 35, the secure area
    inventory report document further including a link to an
5   alternatively formatted secure area inventory report
    document.

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